

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 02056 081720Z

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01 AID-20

EB-11 MC-02 IGA-02 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 TRSE-00

OMB-01 DRC-01 /109 W

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R 081459Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2947

INFO USCINCSO

DOD

DA

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USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS VE

SUBJECT: MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF LOAN
OF U.S. ARMY AIRCRAFT

REF: FORRESTER/FINAN TELECON MARCH 7, 1974

1. AS REQUESTED IN REFERENCED TELECON, FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF CARACAS

9621 DATED NOVEMBER 12, 1973:

QUOTE AMBASSADOR HAS RECEIVED FROM MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS LETTER

OFFICIALLY REQUESTING TWO-YEAR EXTENSION OF LOAN OF THREE UH-1H
HELICOPTERS AND ONE FIXED-WING U-1A "OTTER". AIRCRAFT WERE LOANED
TO VENEZUELA AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 1972 TOGETHER WITH A THREE-MAN US
ARMY MAINTENANCE TEAM AND NECESSARY SPARE PARTS. AMBASSADOR STRONGLY
SUPPORTS PUBLIC WORKS MINISTER'S REQUEST THAT AIRCRAFT BE PERMITTED
TO REMAIN IN COUNTRY AFTER ORIGINAL LOAN PERIOD EXPIRES IN 1974.

EMBASSY FAVORS WHATEVER MEANS-- EXTENSION OF LOAN OR OUTRIGHT

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GRANT OF AIRCRAFT TO MINISTRY--WOULD MOST EXPEDITIOUSLY ACCOMPLISH

LEAVING IN COUNTRY AIRCRAFT WHICH HAVE BEEN A SOLID POLITICAL PLUS FOR OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THIS COUNTRY. AIRCRAFT VALUE TO US AFTER TWO YEARS' HARD SERVICE IN JUNGLES WILL NOT BE VERY GREAT BUT TO VENEZUELA THEY ARE EXTRAORDINARILY USEFUL. THEIR RETENTION HERE WILL BE SOURCE OF DEEP VENEZUELAN APPRECIATION NOT ONLY WITHIN KEY MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS BUT ALSO IN OFFICE OF PRESIDENT AND MINISTRY OF DEFENSE. UNQUOTE

2. AMBASSADOR STRONGLY REITERATES RECOMMENDATION THAT U.S. AIRCRAFT SUPPORT TO CODESUR BE CONTINUED. WE CANNOT OVEREMPHASIZE GOOD WILL AND APPRECIATION WHICH HAVE DERIVED FROM THIS LOAN IN INFLUENTIAL MINISTRIES OF PUBLIC WORKS AND DEFENSE AND ON THE PART OF THE PRESIDENT. CONTINUATION OF LOAN OR OUTRIGHT GRANT WILL BE INTERPRETED AS GRACIOUS AND ALTRUISTIC GESTURE TO NEW GOVERNMENT. FURTHER, OUR SUPPORT WILL HELP SECURE SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION FOR U.S. WHEN BIDS ARE SOLICITED FOR SURVEYS, CONSTRUCTION AND OTHER ACTIVITIES RELATED TO FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS KEY AREA AND PROJECT. WHATEVER THE PROJECT IS CALLED UNDER THE NEW ADMINISTRATION, IT IS A NEAR-CERTAINTY THAT THE PEREZ GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE SUPPORT FOR THE OPENING AND EXPLOITATION OF THE AMAZONAS TERRITORY. FURTHER, ADDRESSEES WILL RECALL THAT A HIGHLY SIGNIFICANT FEATURE OF THE MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENTS NIXON AND CALDERA IN JUNE, 1970 WAS A SPECIFIC PLEDGE THAT US WOULD ASSIST CODESUR.

3. APPROPRIATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS MAY WISH TO CONSULT WITH LT. GENERAL PENNEY, DIRECTOR, DEFENSE MAPPING AGENCY, WHO WAS FULLY BRIEFED ON USE OF THESE AIRCRAFT DURING HIS RECENT VISIT. MCCLINTOCK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY AIRCRAFT, MILITARY EQUIPMENT LOANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974CARACA02056
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740358/aaaaccgv.tel
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <26-Sep-2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
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30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: MASS, VE, US
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